

REPORT ON THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE
STATUS OF WOMEN

to the

HUMBOLDT COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

February 1975

women Humboldt co.

SUMMARY

The Advisory Committee on the Status of Women was created in March 1971 by the Board of Supervisors through Ordinance 757. A first report of the committee was submitted to the Board of Supervisors on January 30, 1973 (copy on file). Kathryn Corbett was initially elected Chairperson, continuing in that capacity until November 1974. At that time, Doris Wemmer, who served from September 1971 until October 1973 as Vice-Chairperson and Secretary, was named Chairperson and Leana Glende filled the other position.

Although Ordinance 757, Section 2, reads: "The Committee shall consist of ten (10) members . . .", one vacancy exists, and the full component of ten (10) has never been achieved.

PROJECTS

1. Met with high school counselors regarding stereotyped counseling of women students.
2. Investigated credit practices as applied to local women.
3. Examined membership of county committees and commissions, their makeup, terms and expiration dates, with the viewpoint of getting women appointed.
4. Endorsed the AAUW resolution recommending the limitation of terms served on appointive bodies.
5. Opposed the principle of scheduling government and public meetings at private clubs not open to both men and women.
6. Continued promotion of women's participation in government appointment and election.
7. Co-sponsoring, with BPW and YWCA, the Status of Women Conference to be held February 22, 1975.

MEETING DATE

Meetings are held monthly, the second Tuesday of each month, 7:30 p.m., Humboldt County Courthouse.

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CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Term Expiration</u>
Leana Glende	District 1	June 30, 1977
Doris T. Wemmer	District 2	June 30, 1977
Helen A. Everett	District 3	June 30, 1977
Kathryn L. Corbett	District 4	June 30, 1975
Barbara Hedgepeth	District 5	June 30, 1975
Margaret Delaney	Member-at-Large	June 30, 1975
Marjorie Kaufmann	Member-at-Large	June 30, 1977
Sara Parsons	Member-at-Large	June 30, 1977
Elva Quarnheim	Member-at-Large	June 30, 1975
Vacancy	Member-at-Large	June 30, 1975

Chairman: Doris Wemmer

Vice Chairman and Secretary: Leana Glende

CONTINUING INTERESTS AND GOALS

The Committee, at its regular meeting February 10, 1975, agreed upon the following goals for the coming year:

1. Appointment of a full committee (one at-large vacancy continues to exist). The committee recommends publicizing all appointive vacancies and soliciting applications for these vacancies.
2. Expand participation by women in the governmental process through appointed service on committees and commissions and in elected office.
 - a. Updating and revising the talent bank file for use by appointing bodies.
 - b. Encouraging governmental bodies to limit terms of appointive positions on committees and commissions in order that more people may take part in the governmental process.
3. Continue to encourage career counseling at the Jr. High and High School levels which stimulate women students to achieve their full potentials.
4. Investigate the participation of young women in vocational education.
5. Study the opportunity for upward mobility of women in County employment.
6. Establish a cooperative relationship with CETA, having the following aims in mind:
 - a. A surveillance of all projects submitted for CETA funding, as to the possible employment of women.
 - b. Develop the consideration of projects which would further the employment of women in the County.

- c. Promote the appointment of women to the CETA Advisory Council.
- d. Appoint an official representative from this committee as observer to CETA Advisory Council meetings.
7. Secure the services of a County funded parttime secretary to take the committee minutes and to send out the correspondence.
8. Honor local women of achievement as a 5th Anniversary event of the committee.

CHRONOLOG OF COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS

Since the report of January 1973, members Everett, Glende and Wemmer, as was Marge Kaufmann, (a newly appointed member-at-large), reappointed to four-year terms. C. Hedrick of McKinleyville resigned. Pat McGinness of Fortuna was appointed, but resigned in September 1974 to enroll in law school. Sara Parsons of Bayside was appointed September 1973. Dorothy Schuler's position was declared vacant for non-attendance and Barbara Hedgpeth, Arcata, was appointed to fill her membership.

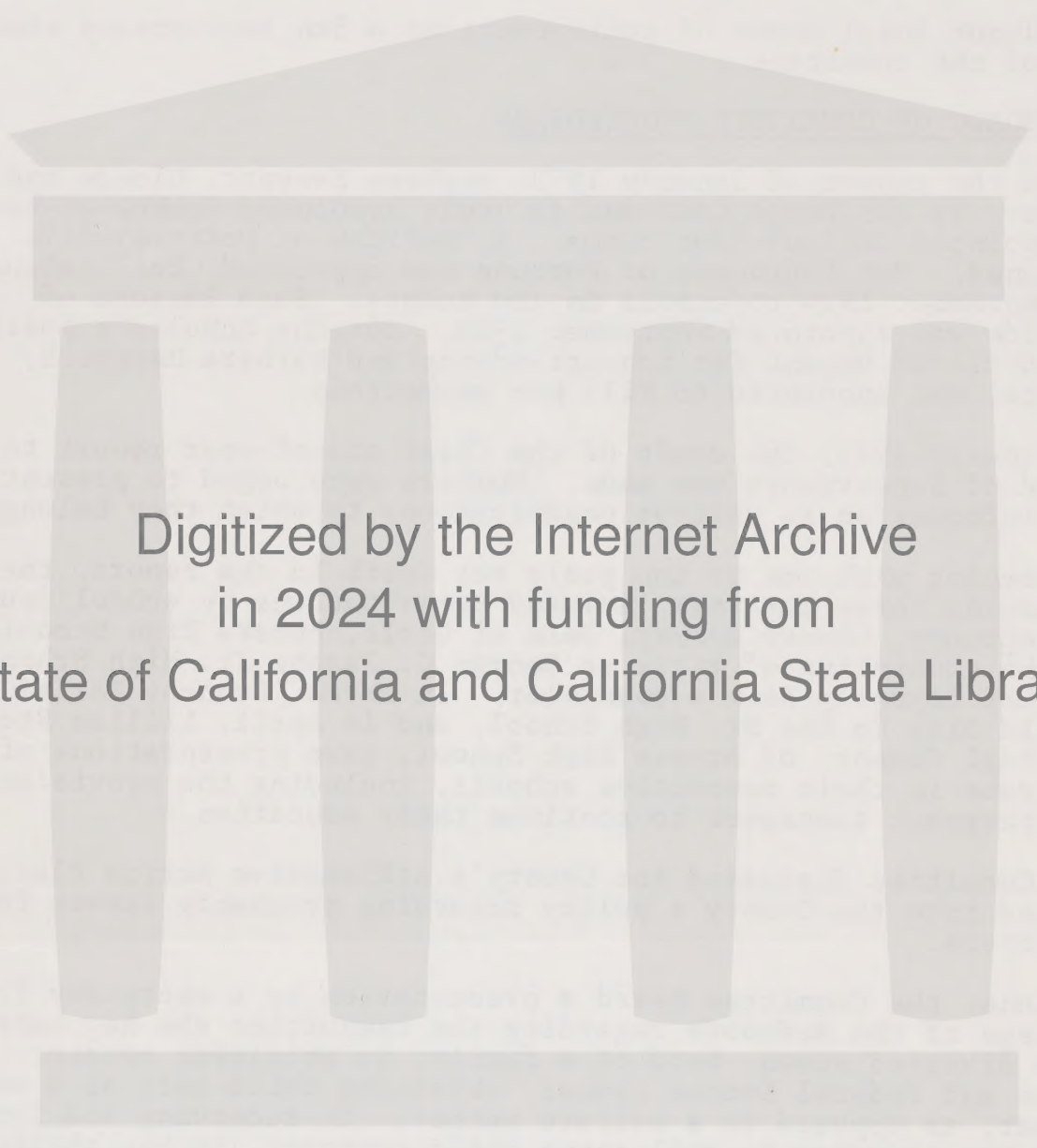
In January 1973, the draft of the first end-of-year report to the Board of Supervisors was made. Members were urged to present the information to various organizations to which they belonged.

In keeping with one of the goals set forth in the report, the following three meetings included presentations by school counselors. In February, Geneva Rooney, Dean of Girls, Eureka High School, spoke on the counseling of girls at George C. Jacobs Jr. High School, where she had formerly been a counselor. In March, Frances Baribault and Ronald Dias fo the Sr. High School, and in April, Lillian Stodder and Paul Conner, of Arcata High School, gave presentations of the programs in their respective schools, including the provisions made for pregnant teenagers to continue their education.

The Committee discussed the County's Affirmative Action Plan, and looked into the County's policy regarding pregnancy leaves for their employees.

In June, the Committee heard a presentation by a secretary from College of the Redwoods regarding the inequities she had experienced as a divorced woman, head of a family, in obtaining credit; computing state and federal income taxes; obtaining child care as a working mother, as opposed to a welfare mother; in receiving aid from the district Attorney in collecting child support; in her ability to determine a legal guardian for her children in the event of her disability, as their sole support; and, in renting and endeavoring to purchase a home.

A panel of members of the Credit Women of Humboldt spoke to the October meeting on the opportunities for women to obtain credit in their own name. They suggested credit granting courses be taught in high school, and that welfare recipients be educated in the use of credit. They also urged all women to contact their representatives in government regarding voting on credit bills.



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In November, a woman in business appealed to the Committee for assistance in obtaining a loan from a bank. The bank had refused her, although admitting that they would have granted the loan to a man with the same qualifications. Another woman, who had been refused credit on the basis of an ex-husband's credit file, was told to reapply, as recent laws had been passed which would be of benefit to her.

E. Quarnheim distributed a chart listing the expiration dates of various County commissions, and she suggested that names be presented to appointive bodies for consideration. The representative from the AAUW stated that a survey which they had just completed showed an increase in women's appointments since the creation of the Committee for the Status of Women.

At the first meeting in 1974, it was voted to co-sponsor the next Status of Women Conference in Eureka.

The AAUW recommendation to limit the appointive terms for committees and commission members was discussed.

In March, Chairperson Corbett presented an analysis of EEOC report on the employment of women in Humboldt County positions. Upon learning that the proportion of women to men decreased as salary range increased, it was decided to explore the possibility of upgrading women's positions in the County.

At this meeting, Patricia (Losh) Hollingsworth reported on the development of a Woman's Center in Eureka and summarized the recently held Conference on Rape.

K. Corbett and E. Quarnheim represented the Humboldt County Advisory Committee at a State-wide conference for delegates from all local boards and commissions on the status of women on June 8, returning with many useful and interesting ideas and project possibilities.

The date for the next Status of Women's Conference was set for February 22, 1975, and a steering committee appointed to make plans. Co-sponsoring will be the YWCA and the Eureka BPW Club.

Two members of the Committee were appointed to meet with President Alistair McCrone of Humboldt State University regarding meeting with the reaccreditation of the HSU Pupil-Personnel Credential. Sara Parsons reported on that meeting which took place in December.

As K. Corbett had moved from Eureka to Trinidad, she was in doubt as to her position on the Committee as representative from Eureka. However, she was notified by the County Administrative Officer that her tenure would continue "as is" until the end of June when her appointment ends.

An application was made on October 24, to CETA for a Clerk Typist for the Committee.

At the December meeting, the Committee endorsed the AAUW proposal recommending limitation of terms of service on Boards and Commissions. The Committee went on record as being opposed to the calling of government or public meetings at private clubs not open to both men and women.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE STATUS
OF WOMEN, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

Doris T. Wemmer
Doris T. Wemmer, Chairperson

February 1975

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